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But among the other charges against this gentleman is that of uttering seditious doctrine. We have examined the doctrine, and it is seditious. Upon a charge of this gravity it is necessary to spread before this court the evidence. In his address, for example, delivered before the Democratic Convention at St. Louis, June 15 last, among other things he had the temerity, the effrontery, there to say, and in tones that could be heard all over the place, these words. We print them just as they were uttered. Timid souls may skip them if they choose:

"I believe that there is now before this country an opportunity such as no other country has ever had since the beginning of time. I believe that God, in His providence, has reserved for the United States the honor and the task of lifting the moral code that governs individuals up to the level of nations and making it a part of the code of all governments.

"There is a picture that has attracted comment wherever it has been exhibited—the picture of Christ before Pilate. Pilate represented the power of the Roman government, and back of him were the legions of Rome. Before Pilate, helpless, unarmed, stood the Apostle of Love. Force triumphed; they nailed him to the tree, and those who stood around mocked and jeered and said, 'He is dead!' But that, instead of being the end, was only the beginning. In a few centuries the power of Caesar was gone and his legions forgotten. The power of Christ, however, increased until hundreds, yes, thousands of millions have taken His name with reverence upon their lips; millions have been ready to die rather than surrender the faith He put into their hearts. He has become the great fact of history, the glowing figure of all time. Today Christ and Pilate again stand face to face—Force and Love are again striving for mastery and dominion. The old world represents force. It built its hope of peace on fear and threats of violence. Each nation attempted to terrorize other nations into peace, and in their efforts they engendered hatreds that ended in war.

"If the nations now at war had spent one-tenth as much trying to cultivate friendship as they have spent in cultivating hatred, there would be no war in Europe today.

"If I understand this nation's opportunity and this nation's task, it is to lead the world away from its false philosophy and help it to build its hope of permanent peace on the foundation of love and brotherhood and cooperation."

A careful reading of such sentences can leave no doubt in the mind of a disinterested reader that Mr. Bryan is showing a conspicuous disrespect for the current doctrines of our day. Like Socrates, he is corrupting the minds of our youth. He is stubborn. He will talk. He will run counter to the canons of the press, of the pulpit, and the statesman. Upon the charge of sedition, sedition of a most pronounced and unusual type, Mr. Bryan is guilty.

Thus with the dignity befitting this court, we rise.

The evidence against the prisoner is complete. Our gavel descends. Upon every charge of the indictment we pronounce Mr. Bryan guilty. May the Lord have mercy on his soul!

ONE CAUSE OF WORLD FRICTION REMOVED

Now and then a ray of encouragement pierces through the war clouds of Europe. The abolition of vodka by Russian royal edict, now that the mental and the physical strength of the Russian is more needed than his money, was undoubtedly a lift to the cause of temperance. We can feel gratified at this the more if we are not over-nice in our criticisms of the war which made this step advisable or of the powers of autocracy which made it possible. Russia has promised autonomy for Poland at the close of the war. We have not heard much about that promise of late, but the promise has been made. Again, the chancelleries of both sides to the combat have been reaffirming recently their contention that they are at war in the interest of a permanent peace. All of these may be said to be encouraging.

But a matter to which we would especially call attention as particularly hopeful is the proposal to abolish Indian indentured labor in the British colonial possessions by the Imperial Legislative Assembly, and with the approval of His Excellency the Viceroy, Lord Hardinge. This system has meant the recruiting into practical slavery of 40 Indian women for every 100 men, and a term of compulsory state-regulated labor covering a period of five years. Under this system the laborers were not free to choose or to change their employment or their employer. They worked for a wage which was practically stationary. In the words of the Viceroy, it was "a system which educated opinion in India has for long regarded as intolerable and a stigma upon their race."

The decree abolishing this system is not to be immediately executed, on the ground that the change should be effected without injuring the existing interests, especially the industries which have been built up on Indian labor. But that the decree has been made, and that it is going to be put into execution, are facts we may contemplate with a no small degree of complacency.

The system of indentured coolie labor has been a loathsome evidence of misrule in Trinidad, Fiji, Jamaica, and other distant colonies of Great Britain for many years. It used to be employed in Mauritius, the Straits Settlements, the Federated Malay Straits, Natal, Assam, and elsewhere. In these sections just named it has been abolished, and in a few years, so we are told, "no indentured coolie will be allowed to leave the Indian ports."

This war has shown more clearly than heretofore that India is more than a land of coolies. Civilization extends its hand to that India which has persistently and irresistibly and successfully demanded the abolition of this degrading system.

JAPAN'S FINANCES AND OUR FEARS

FREQUENT arguments for and against a possible war between the United States and Japan are based upon statements referring with more or less accuracy to Japan's finances. Is Japan bankrupt, and is there, for this reason, no danger of war between the two nations? Or is she fit financially, and therefore able to wage war against the United States? Before argument can justly proceed, these questions must be answered. And before they may be answered we must know something of the facts.

We are able to quote from our Ambassador to Japan, Mr. George W. Guthrie, to some purpose in this respect. From him we learn that, among other signs of a slowly returning prosperity in that country, the general budget for Japan's fiscal year ending March 31, 1917, balances the revenues and expenditures at \$275,594,362. To this general budget should be added five supplementary budgets, giving a grand total of \$299,263,140 for revenues and \$299,925,480 for expenditures. The sinking fund, which takes the form of redemption of national loans, reaches for the year the sum of \$24,900,000. Thirty per cent of Japan's revenue is derived from public undertakings, including monopolies; 16 per cent from the liquor tax; 13 per cent from the land tax; 6 per cent from the income tax, and less than 6 per cent from customs. Forty-three per cent of the revenue from public undertakings represents the income of State monopolies—tobacco, salt, and camphor—which amount is, of course, an indirect tax.

The rate of taxation of land is 2.5 per cent for residence land, 4.5 per cent for agricultural land, and 5.5 per cent for other land. The rate for agricultural land, while apparently very high, is based on a valuation made over thirty years ago, which is at present from 5 to 20 per cent of the actual value. The rate for taxing incomes is also high, and is levied on juridical persons as well as individuals. The rate for ordinary and limited partnerships ranges from 4 per cent for those with an income of less than \$2,500 to 13 per cent for those having an income of over \$100,000. For other corporations the rate is 6.25 per cent. The individual income tax ranges from 2.5 per cent on less than \$500 to 22 per cent for those whose incomes exceed \$50,000.

On the expenditure side, the feature of special interest is the relatively large outlay for the army and navy. These total over \$96,000,000, or 35 per cent of the total expenditure. It is provided that the army

budget shall increase gradually each year to a maximum of \$4,382,480, to be reached in 1920-21. The army extension program is projected to the end of the fiscal year 1924-25, the total amount appropriated being \$35,741,025. The sum of \$25,029,715 is to be expended during the present fiscal year on the navy, and a total of \$67,000,000 by the end of the year 1919-20.

These figures the following table will explain more clearly:

DEPARTMENT OF WAR.

Construction of forts in Tokyo Bay:	
Already appropriated	4,320,150
Supplementary	87,650
Total	4,407,700
Paid in up to end of fiscal year 1915-16.	3,958,155
To be paid in fiscal years 1916-17 to 1919-20, the average for each year being \$112,410	449,545
Military equipment completion:	
Already appropriated	83,782,070
Supplementary	20,148,630
Total	103,930,700
Paid in up to end of fiscal year 1915-16.	68,189,675
To be paid in fiscal years 1916-17 to 1924-25, the average for each year being \$3,971,225	35,741,025

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

Cost of replenishing armaments:	
Already appropriated	269,309,400
Supplementary	21,528,990
Total	290,838,390
Paid in up to end of fiscal year 1915-16.	223,518,250
To be paid in fiscal year 1916-17, \$25,029,715; in 1917-18, \$19,559,215; in 1918-19, \$16,031,310; in 1919-20, \$6,699,900; total	67,320,140

Such figures form a fairly safe basis for intelligent argument on the question of Japan's attitude towards future wars of conquest. The reader will naturally form his own conclusions from them. There are, however, a few comments that may be made. First, it is evident that Japan is not a bankrupt nation. She is already within sight of freedom from the debts of her past wars. It is evident that we have here a very business-like people, well able to get on its feet again. But there is very little evidence that they are secretly preparing to raid the United States. Beside our program of \$60,000,000 for militia alone, and \$240,000,000 for one year of navy expenses, the Japanese program seems pitifully small. Considered on a percentage basis, the result is even more conclusive. Japan spends about 35 per cent of her income on army and navy. The